





## Renewed Rush Of Preparations

Military Operations Again Assume Feverish Activity in Far East.

Daily Graphic's Report May Yet Prove a Little Previous.

Port Arthur, Jan. 20.—A telegram reported to have been sent by the Russian military attaché at Tokyo was received here yesterday. It gave the information of the mobilization of the Japanese army, and made the effect of renewed activity and the effect of the Russian troops already ordered to the north, but who had been detained on account of the peaceful aspect of affairs. The authorities here arrived the Russian women of Port Arthur to join the Red Cross. The organization of the city's resources continues as though war was certain. The authorities are receiving many sensational reports from Korea and China.

London, Jan. 20.—There is nothing in the despatches published this morning to show that the statement of the Daily Graphic is anything more than "intelligent anticipation."

The Daily Mail and Daily Telegraph both report in their St. Petersburg despatches the possibility of further negotiations, the latter paper saying that the culmination of the crisis is not expected before the beginning of March, and reporting a sudden rise on the St. Petersburg bourse.

A despatch to the Standard from Tokyo says that, according to information from a sure source, large bodies of Russian troops are being moved to the Korean frontier from Feng Huan Cheng and other points in the interior of Manchuria.

A despatch to the Daily Mail from Seoul reports the arrival of 1,000 Russian troops at Antung yesterday.

A despatch from Nagasaki to the Daily Telegraph states that the Korean government has refused the renewed demands of Italy for a gold mining concession in Korea.

The Pekin correspondent of the Times cables that Tseng Chih, the Russian general of Mukden, has telegraphed the foreign board of Pekin that the Russians have demanded that he supply 500 cars for immediate military service. The board replied that, owing to China's decision of neutrality, Tseng Chih must decide to supply the cars in question.

Colombo, Ceylon, Jan. 20.—The Japanese armored cruisers Nishin and Kasuga, which arrived here January 27, have sailed.

London, Jan. 28.—A despatch to Reuters' Telegram Company from Tokyo says the elder statesman were received in audience by the Emperor today, and that it is generally believed in Tokyo that Japan has requested Russia to hasten her reply. Russian military activity on the Korean frontier is proceeding and increasing the uneasiness.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 28.—Russia's reply to the last Japanese note probably will be despatched on Saturday, January 30th. It is intimated, semi-officially, that the note will be couched in pacific terms.

### THE DREYFUS CASE.

Paris, Jan. 28.—The president of the court of cassation has appointed Counsel Berier to report on the Dreyfus case. Neither Berier nor Attorney-General Baudouin took part in the first revision of the trial.

### AMERICAN POACHER TRIED.

St. Thomas, Jan. 28.—Judge Erminger has condemned John Tabb, of the American fishing tug Star, for illegally fishing in Canadian waters last October. The case will be appealed. Tabb claims the vessel was after some nets which had drifted into Canadian waters when his vessel was seized by the Canadian revenue cutter Petrol.

### BLAIR'S VACANT SEAT.

Hon. G. E. Foster may be tendered the nomination in St. John.

St. John, N. B., Jan. 28.—Hon. G. E. Foster may be tendered the nomination for this city in the federal election, which takes place on February 10th, to fill the vacancy caused by the appointment of Hon. A. G. Blair as chairman of the railway committee.

### STORMS SPOIL TRADE.

Fuel Running Short and Factories May Have to Shut Down in Ontario.

London, Ont., Jan. 28.—The stormy weather of the past two weeks has had a serious effect on the business of the coal merchants of this city. The roads leading to the city are almost impassable, and this has kept the farmers at home. Some storekeepers state that business has dropped 50 per cent owing to the storm. Wholesale and retailers have found it impossible to get goods over the railways and many lines of merchandise are exhausted. The coal supply of a number of the leading factories is running short and unless conditions improve on the railways and a large supply can be obtained they will be compelled to close down. Already rolling mills are at a standstill and will have to remain idle until the supply of coal is received.

### RECORD COLD WEATHER.

Cattle Frozen in Barns in Michigan and Heavy Snow Falls in South.

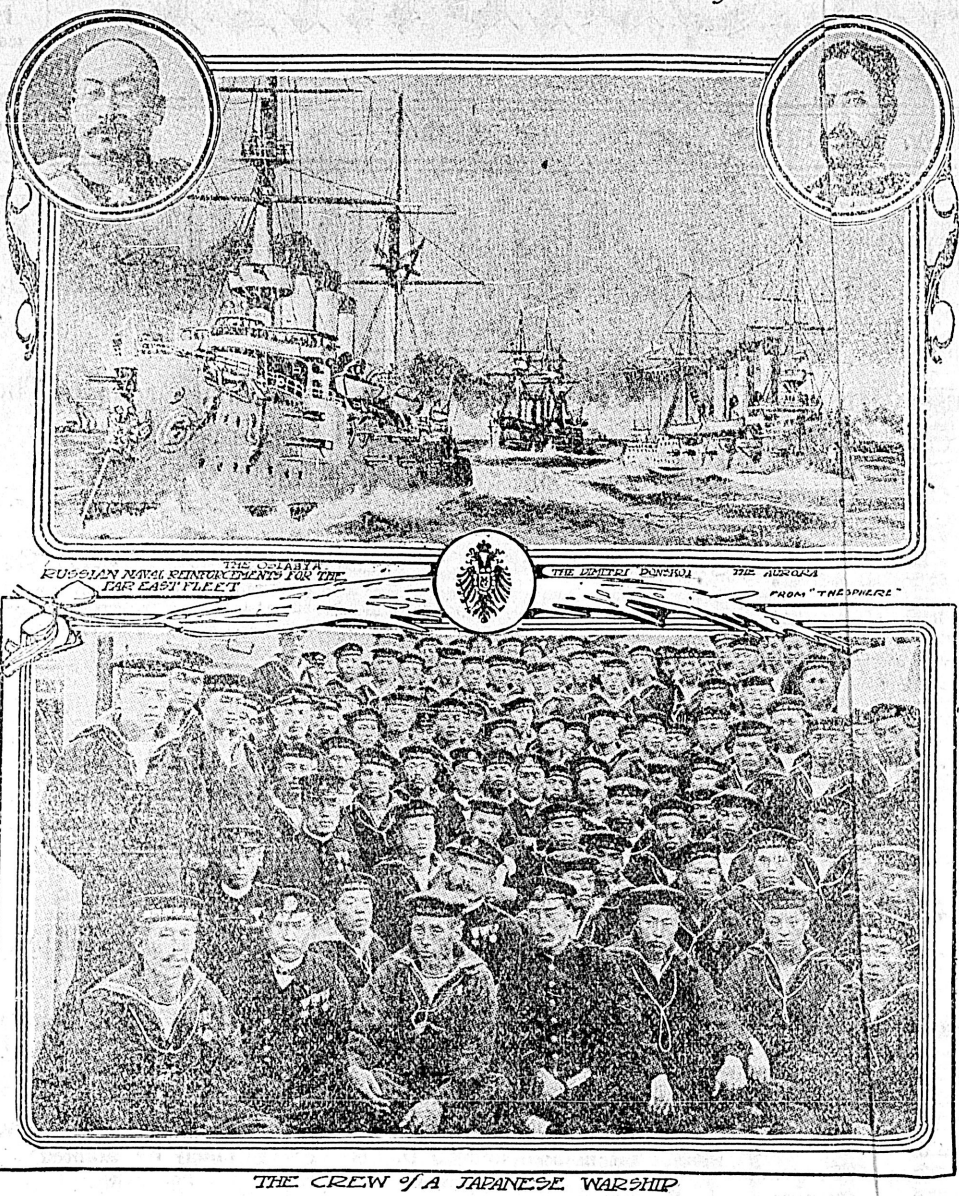
Bessemer, Mich., Jan. 28.—Last night was the coldest in the history of the copper country, the thermometer registering 48 degrees below zero. Cattle were frozen to death in the barns. Teaming and all outdoor work is suspended.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 28.—The heaviest snowfall ever known since the local weather bureau was established fell last night and today to a depth of eight inches. The temperature dropped to freezing last night, but is rising today.

Jackson, Miss., Jan. 28.—Thirteen inches of snow fell here last night and this morning, the heaviest fall of snow known in this section in the last twenty-five years.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY. Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each package.

## Russia's Eastern Naval Reinforcements



THE CREW OF A JAPANESE WARSHIP

### AWKWARD MAN STARTS A PANIC

Stumbles Over Chair And Almost Stampedes a Crowded Theatre.

St. Louis, Jan. 28.—A man falling over a chair started a panic in Haydn's theatre tonight, but the prompt action of Manager Garen in making a speech from the stage prevented a general stampede and nobody was hurt. The man stumbled over a chair in the balcony during a "dark scene" and the audience sprang to its feet en masse. Manager Garen instantly ordered the lights turned on, and, rushing upon the stage, pleaded to the panic-stricken people to be seated, telling them there was no danger and imploring them to remember the terrible Proquios theatre disaster. The audience became quiet as the asbestos curtain was ordered down and other assurances of safety were given.

### TOOK ROUGH ON RATS.

St. Thomas, Jan. 28.—Mrs. Rhoda Nicholson, wife of Manassah Nicholson, a farmer of Yarmouth Centre, three miles from the city, committed suicide yesterday by taking rough-on-rats. She had been despondent for some time. She leaves a husband and seven children.

### ATTEMPTED BLACKMAIL.

Southern Pacific Threatened With Similar Experience to Northern Pacific.

San Francisco, Jan. 28.—A threat to wreck every Southern Pacific train running through the San Joaquin valley unless the Southern Pacific Company pays \$10,000 has been made to the company through an anonymous letter. Detectives are working on the case, but as yet they have found no clue to the writer. The date on which the writer threatened to put his plan into execution has expired, but the railroad is still guarding the line.

### DEAD KING'S TREASURE.

Chief of Late Alexander's Cabinet Arrested for Alleged Embezzling.

Belgrade, Serbia, Jan. 28.—Miloš Petrovitch, former chief of the late King Alexander's cabinet, is implicated in the misappropriation of \$30,000 belonging to the estate of a natural son of Prince Michael Obrenovich, with former Minister of the Interior Todorovich, who was wounded in the palace during the assassination on June 11 of King Alexander and Queen Draga. He was arrested January 17th. Petrovitch admits that he remitted the money to certain persons in England, and claims he obeyed a direct order of King Alexander and refuses to furnish further details. He has been arrested pending an examination of the statements made.

### TO RECONSTRUCT THE SOUTH.

Democrat Proposes Negro Disfranchisement for Campaign Cry.

Wilmington, Del., Jan. 28.—Negro disfranchisement was suggested as one of the slogans for the next Democratic campaign, and Judge George Gray was named as a candidate for the presidential nomination tonight at the eighth anniversary dinner of the Democratic League of Delaware, the pioneer Bryan organization of the state. Josiah Marvel declared that the only remedy for barring negroes in votes was to disfranchise a greater part of the white colored voters, who hold the balance of power between the two great political parties.

### A SPANISH DUEL.

Madrid, Jan. 28.—As an outcome of a heated altercation in the Chamber of Deputies today concerning the appointment of Monsignor Nozalea to the Archbishopric of Valencia, Minister of War Linares and Deputy Soriano are to fight a duel and have appointed their seconds.

### MRS. CLEMENT'S HEALTH.

Florence, Jan. 28.—The sun and soft climate of Italy has brought a notable improvement in the health of Mrs. Samuel L. Clements, wife of "Mark Twain." Mr. Clements is very busy with writing, and it is his habit to dictate to his secretary as he walks up and down his wife's room.

### WONDERFUL RADIUM.

Austrian Surgeon Lists One More Use for Strange Mineral.

Vienna, Jan. 28.—Prof. Gussenbauer, one of the leading surgeons of Austria, has conducted successful experiments with radium for enlargement of the gullet in cases of cancerous contraction of the esophagus, thereby obviating the necessity of a course to artificial nourishment.

### PRACTICAL JOKER KILLED.

Ithica, N. Y., Jan. 28.—A corner's jury was decided that Nellie Deviney, who was shot and killed yesterday by her sixteen-year-old brother, must have been a practical joker. It appears that the lad was about to go hunting, when his sister playfully took hold of the barrel of the gun and attempted to detain him. The weapon was discharged and the shot lodged in the young woman's brain.

### EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES.

French Senate Passes Bill Authorizing Closing of Obnoxious Offices.

Paris, Jan. 28.—The senate has passed a bill authorizing the communes or townships to suppress employment agencies, the operations of which have led to rioting on the part of the laboring classes, but with certain modifications which render doubtful the ratification of the bill by the chamber.

### DEFAULTER CONFESSES.

Cleveland Cashier Acknowledges Theft of Bank's Funds.

Cleveland, Jan. 28.—George A. Rose, the alleged defaulting cashier of the Produce Exchange Bank, which closed its doors January 22nd, made a confession this evening to the grand jury prosecuting for telling of his method of using the bank's money, of which he is said to have lost \$187,000. Often he had been tempted to commit suicide, but did not do so because of his wife and family. All of the entire sum of \$187,000, Rose declares, was lost in grain speculation in Chicago. His willingness for a speedy trial and imprisonment, he said, was to relieve his mind of worry so that he might afterwards begin life anew.

### BIG FIRE IN MEXICO.

Conflagration Causes Two Millions Loss at Progresso.

Mexico City, Jan. 28.—A great fire at Progresso, the chief port of Yucatan, has destroyed an entire square of business houses and public buildings, including the market. The loss is put at \$2,000,000. Fifteen thousand bales of henequen were burned. The business district in which the fire broke out is located about a half mile from the wharves and ferry fronts on the Alameda. The most beautiful plaza in the city. The origin of the fire is unknown. Among the public buildings gutted was the municipal palace, the loss on this being \$450,000. The market house loss is \$250,000.

### COUNTERFEIT STATUETTE.

Unwittingly a Student's Work Brings Him Great Notoriety.

London, Jan. 28.—A sensation has been caused in art circles at the discovery that a silver statuette of Nelson, supposed to have been presented the hero by George III, and which was purchased for \$3,000 by public subscription, the King and Princess of Wales subscribing, for presentation to the Royal United Service Institution, is in reality the work of a young sculptor student named Richard Garbe, and was executed two years ago. Garbe is quite homeless for this foisting of his work on the public.

### LOCAL JOURNALIST FOR FAR EAST

Gordon Smith of The Colonist Will go to Front & War Correspondent

Mr. Gordon Smith, of the staff of the Colonist, has been appointed war correspondent of the London Daily Mail for "over" the war that is expected to occur between Russia and Japan, and Mr. Smith will leave for the front in a few days. He will follow the campaign from the Japanese side following the army of the Mikado in its conflicts with that of the Zar. While at the front Mr. Smith was for almost four years has been a member of the Colonist's staff, will send a number of letters, which will doubtless be read with interest, in the columns of the Colonist, and he will also illustrate the more picturesque scenes of the trouble which has arisen in the Far East.

With the appointment of Mr. Gordon Smith to the post which has been given him, the Colonist will have two war correspondents at the front from its staff. The former war correspondent of the Colonist, Mr. George Denny, according to letters received by the steamer Kaga Maru, is now at Nagasaki awaiting the movement of the Japanese navy, under orders from the Associated Press, for reasons he is acting as special war correspondent, and he will follow the Japanese squadron, chartering a special steamer for that purpose, if necessary.

Mr. Smith, who will follow Mr. Denny's footsteps in the more leave space of journalism, expects to go into Korea, where it is expected that most of the fighting will occur. If the naval war takes place, as is expected by statesmen of the various powers. He has been connected with Victoria newspapers for many years, having come from Montreal newspapers to Victoria, and, after spending some time at various Government buildings as a stenographer, joined the staff of an evening paper, except the British Pacific Journal, which, however, soon died. He then did special work were sent under his pen name, the then editor, and afterward joined the staff of the Times. Four years ago he left the evening paper to become a member of the Colonist staff.

"Devil's Auction."—Victoria theatre was crowded last evening, every seat in the building being occupied, and many extra chairs at the backs of the seats downstairs, testifying to the popularity of Chas. H. Yates' "everlasting" The specialties were very good indeed, and the evening was much enjoyed by the big crowd present.

LOSS OF APPETITE is common gradually. One dish after another is set aside till few remain. These are not eaten with much relish, and are often so light as not to afford much nourishment.

Loss of appetite is one of the first indications that the system is running down, and there is nothing else so good for it as Hood's Sarsaparilla—the best of all tonics. Accept no substitute for Hood's.

Life-saving Committee.—The committee appointed last evening to take steps to form ways and means to provide a life-saving station for Victoria, are requested to meet this afternoon at 4 o'clock at the office of the secretary, Mr. J. Rogers, 38 Douglas street. The following gentlemen were appointed on the committee: Captains J. W. Troup, J. W. Walbran and Bucholtz and Messrs. Paul Beygan, H. D. Helmcken, K. C., and Thomas Mason.

### NEWS TOO GOOD TO KEEP.

Persons who have used Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills are usually so well pleased with the benefits derived that they tell the good news to their neighbors. There is no medicine which so promptly awakens the action of the liver, purifies the kidneys and regulates the bowels as Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, and for this reason they are unapproachable as a family medicine. One pill a dose, 25 cents a box, at all dealers.

Dog Show.—The Philharmonic hall was crowded last evening on the occasion of the Victoria Kennel Club show. There were over seventy entries and all classes were well represented. Mrs. Bostock's fox terriers were much admired and were winners in all classes. Altogether the club is thoroughly satisfied with the outcome of the affair last evening. Full list of prize winners will be published tomorrow, the secretary not arriving till ready last night.

## Piteous Appeal From Pittsburg

Funds Needed to Provide For Widows and Orphans of Dead Miners.

A Mine Inspector Blames the Defective Laws For Explosion.

Pittsburg, Jan. 28.—Of the 103 bodies recovered thus far from the Harwick mine, thirty-nine have been identified and eighteen have been buried.

The first funerals of the victims were held this afternoon. The friends and relatives of the dead standing outside the blacksmith shop where the bodies were placed.

The caskets were placed in a group along the side of the building, with the ministers who were to perform the last rites, standing by them. It was a short and simple service, only a few words and a prayer, and then the journey to the cemetery began. There a short service was held and the caskets were lowered into the graves.

The foreign miners at Harwick, almost to a man, refused to enter the mine to assist in the rescue work, yet the volunteers from outside points are doing such good work that they are bringing out the bodies faster than the corps of undertakers can handle them, and the remains of the victims are being arranged in tiers outside the schoolhouse. The relief fund now exceeds \$10,000 and contributions continue to come in liberally.

An appeal for aid was sent out by telegraph tonight announcing that 184 miners had been killed. Among those to whom telegrams were addressed are Andrew Carnegie, President Roosevelt, Senator Hanna and John D. Rockefeller, New York. The message was also sent to the mayors of large cities all over the country.

Speaking of the Harwick mine disaster this evening James Roderick, chief state mine inspector, made use of these words: "Laws could be framed that would prevent just such an accident, but the trouble lies at Harwick, the capital. The present bituminous mining laws seem to be a compromise between the mine workers and the operators." Mr. Roderick added that he believed that he had found where the explosion originated.

### PANAMA'S PIN MONEY.

Panama, Jan. 28.—At the session held this morning, the constitutional convention approved a measure providing that of the \$10,000,000 to be paid to the Republic of Panama by the United States for the right to use the canal, some \$8,000,000 is to remain untouched for the future benefit of the republic.

### THE WALKING DELEGATE.

New York, Jan. 28.—Sentence was suspended today in the case of Richard Carvel, the walking delegate of the Dockmen, Itzgers and Painters' Union, who pleaded guilty to an attempted extortion in collecting \$800 from Thomas T. Hopper in order to prevent the calling of a strike.

### SCHAEFER TO MEET CURE.

Two Great Billiardists Are Matched for Game in Paris.

Paris, Jan. 28.—M. Cure, the French player, today accepted Jacob Schaefer's challenge for a billiard match at eight o'clock. The match will be played in three points, and drew a check to cover the stake. He was unable to close the matter, however, as the Grand Hotel hall, which has been specified by Schaefer, is not available at the appointed date. M. Cure will deposit the stake money immediately Schaefer agrees upon some other hall.

### CAROLINA KILLING BEE.

Mountaineers Engage in a Row and Three Deaths Result.

Charlotte, S. C., Jan. 28.—A despatch from Asheville says: "Charles Fisher received news today that his cousin, Marion Fisher, and Bill Deal and Joe Lowery had been killed in the south mountain region of Burke county. A number of men had been involved in a row in which Julius Fisher killed his uncle, Marion Fisher; York Fisher killed Deal, and a man named Ed. Hunt killed Lowery. Particulars regarding the affair are meagre."

### VICTIMS OF GAS.

Providence, R. I., Jan. 28.—An explosion of illuminating gas beneath the sidewalk on Lonsdale street today killed Edward Cull, twenty-nine years old, and endangered the lives of other persons in the vicinity. Many windows were broken and the foundations of neighboring buildings disturbed. Cull was one of a gang of workmen in quest of a leak in the gas pipe, and was using lighted matches.

Eric, Pa., Jan. 28.—The escaping gas in the home of G. Saunders, of this city, today resulted in the asphyxiation of Mrs. Saunders and her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Montgomery, of Pittsburg. Saunders will probably die, and his three-week-old baby and his sister-in-law, Eva Montgomery, are in a serious condition.

### NOTICE

TIM KEE

Chinese Employment Agent.  
7 Cormorant Street, Victoria, B. C.  
All kinds of Chinese labor and help supplied at shortest notice for domestic, railway, cannery, miners, etc., purposes.

### DULL SEASON "NEVER"

Be in the swim; get your clothes made up to date.

Cooper & Linklater

Fashionable Tailors,  
47 Fort Street.  
Stock the Newest. Style the Latest.

### NOTICE

Rev. R. M. Simmons, Elder in Charge in the Christian Catholic Church in Zion in Vancouver and Victoria, accompanied by Judge V. V. Barnes, Supreme Court and Zion's General Counsel, Deacon Daniel Sloan, manager Zion stocks and securities; Deacon James P. Peters, superintendent Zion transportation, will address a meeting in Zion Tabernacle, 68 Johnson street, FRIDAY EVENING, JAN. 29, 8 o'clock. All welcome. Subject, "Zion Ecclesiastically, Commercially, Financially, Educationally and Politically."



TOO busy to write much about Friday Bargains. Our Big Rush Sale has kept us going the full limit. Rest assured this will be a record

## Friday Bargain Day

at the Popular Store. Just a few mentions:

500 yards Flannelette and Wrapperette, good range of patterns and Colors, worth up to 12c. Friday Bargain ..... 5c  
10 yard limit to a customer.

12c Ribbons 7c.

3,000 yards Silk and Satin Ribbons, all the wanted colors, regular 12½c. Friday Bargain ..... 7c  
Men's Collars, regular 15c. Friday Bargain ..... 5c  
Men's Shirts, regular \$1.00. Friday Bargain ..... 45c  
Come early Friday, dozens of tables arranged with special Friday Bargains.

The Hutcheson Co., Ltd., Victoria, B. C.

## Stoddart's Jewelry Store

Show Case 10 ft. long, and Counter; also Stove

## FOR SALE



Spool Silk for dressmaking and family sewing. Is the best silk made. For hand or machine use it has no equal. Corticelli silk runs smoothly in the needle; it is always even in size and always full length and full strength. Ask for "Corticelli" Sewing Silk and refuse all substitutes.



WASH SILKS are put up in patent holders, which prevents waste by tangles or soiling; keeps each shade separate and automatically measures a correct needleful. It is recommended as the only proper way to put up filo and floss silks, and used by art societies everywhere.



Skirt Protector is of firm and even texture. When soiled a sponge or brush makes it clean again, and no damage done. It has peculiar wearing qualities and perfectly straight selvage. For sale everywhere.

## WRAPPER SALE

The Clearing Sale of Wrappers is now on at MRS. M. A. VIGOR - 88 YATES STREET

## "GARIBOO"

An illustrated article from the pen of Mrs. Macnaughton, of Quesnel, authoress of "Overland to Cariboo," will appear in

## SUNDAY'S COLONIST

The article is a general description of the famous gold-bearing district and several views of mining operations on the claims in that part of British Columbia will be produced

Sunday Colonist \$1.50 Per Annum

Or 5 Cents a Copy

Don't miss reading "D.W.H."

**MARTELL'S**  
**THREE STAR**  
**BRANDY**  
AT ALL BARS AND RESTAURANTS.  
OF ALL WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.







## The Colonist.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 1904.

## PUBLISHED BY

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## \$25.00 REWARD.

The above will be paid for information that will lead to the conviction of any one stealing "The Colonist" from a subscriber's door. Subscribers missing their paper, or where paper is not delivered on time, are requested to notify the business office. In case of non-delivery a second copy will be delivered free of charge.

## PROVINCIAL PUBLIC WORKS.

Never has a session of the Provincial Legislature been held without complaints more or less general of the inadequacy of the appropriations made by the Government for public works. Of course, the complaints have varied from year to year, the difference being caused not so much by the greater or less amount of money that was forthcoming for such purposes, as by the weakness or strength of the government that happened to be in power and the political exigencies which confronted it. Unquestionably the results of the methods on which the carrying on of the public works in British Columbia is based, are due not a little to the fact that political considerations have generally entered so largely into the manner in which the expenditures on public works have been distributed throughout the different districts in the Province. And notwithstanding the efforts that the most capable and honest government may make to bring about a change in these things, and to carry out the public works of all kinds on a strictly business basis and with the determination that the country shall get full value for the expenditures, it is useless to expect that the best possible results will be obtained under the present system.

Owing to the present condition of the finances the estimates for public works that have been submitted to the Legislature this year are not as large as they have been in some previous years. This does not necessarily imply, however, that the works that may be carried out will be proportionately smaller than in former years. Two circumstances may prevent that result. One is that more careful consideration may be given to the preparation of the estimates so that the money available may be appropriated where it will give the best results. The other is that more efficient supervision by the department and closer attention to their duties on the part of its officials and agents may give better returns in both the quality and the amount of work done for a certain amount of money. Those who are acquainted with the manner in which public works have been carried on during a series of years, are well aware of the different results that a comparison of different periods will show in this respect.

But when every allowance is made for these things and the Department of Lands and Works is brought up to a standard of efficiency, both in the office in Victoria and in its numerous agencies throughout the Province, almost equal to what would be found in a great commercial or industrial organization, it will, we fear, still be found that a good deal of popular dissatisfaction will remain as to the results achieved by this important department of the Provincial administration. There is only one remedy that, in our opinion, will be really satisfactory, and that is the devolving on local bodies of the responsibility both for the cost and the execution of public works. Whether the bodies on which these duties and obligations will be placed shall be known as municipalities or counties is a matter of no particular moment. Probably, as we are already familiar with the municipality as the unit for local self-government it may be considered desirable to seek for the remedy (which all admit must be obtained) in the multiplication of these municipal organizations, although in their application to the larger and more thinly settled districts which will have to be dealt with under the general system of local self-government that we have in view, the county as the unit would, perhaps, be preferable. But as we have said, the designation of the body to be created is a nearly as important as the duties that are to be entrusted to it or the manner in which they will be carried out. One thing we desire to emphasize, and that is that the transfer to local bodies of most of the obligations and responsibilities now imposed on the Lands and Works Department must be effected if the Province is to be in the best possible condition as regards its public works.

There will, of course, be much opposition to such a radical change in methods that have all the sanctity that their continuance during long years gives them. There will be need of much ability and tenacity of purpose on the part of those on whom the task of carrying through the reform shall devolve. There will be determined opposition to the initiation of such a revolution in things as they now exist. There will be almost endless difficulties and obstacles placed in the way of carrying out the reform. But notwithstanding all these difficulties we are persuaded that it will ultimately be accomplished. Whether the interval before its accomplishment shall be longer or shorter will depend principally on the quickness of the perception by the public of the advantages that will accrue to the country by the change. The present system of municipalities and unorganized districts is most unfair to the residents in the former, who not only tax themselves for their own local purposes, but have to contribute to the cost of the administration of the unorganized districts. Naturally the people living outside of municipalities in districts which, although unorganized, are often as wealthy and populous as those in-

cluded within municipal limits, will object to a change which will shift some of the burdens now borne by the Provincial taxpayers generally on to their shoulders. But what Provincial statesmen should regard is what is best for the whole province and, there can be no question that decentralization is the first step that must be taken to secure those reforms that are needed in many branches of provincial administration. Not the least valuable of the indirect results that will flow from the change we advocate, will be the development of a stronger, more lively local patriotism and the substitution of a robust local self-reliance for the demoralizing dependence on government aid and support which is now too characteristic of British Columbia opinion and sentiment.

## THE BILLS OF SALE ACT.

Although the Attorney-General has decided (wisely we think) not to attempt to introduce a new Bill of Sale Act at the present session, he has announced his intention of asking the Legislature to pass one or two amendments to the present act with a view to remedy some of its worst defects. The manner in which the non-registration of bills of sale can be used to the injury and loss of creditors by dishonest debtors has been a most flagrant abuse of the law. While there are differences of opinion in commercial circles as to the details of the amendments necessary to accomplish what is desired, there is complete unanimity as to the necessity of such changes in the law as will make such dishonest practices much more difficult if not impossible. The situation now is very different from what it was when the present act was framed. Then weeks were occupied in communication between one point of the Province and another, the same distance today only requiring a few days or possibly even hours. Business also can be conducted on sounder principles and smaller profits and shorter credits have taken the place of twelve months' credit with large profits but considerable risk. The proposed changes will not prejudice the honest retailer. On the contrary they will benefit him by depriving his unscrupulous rival of the means of carrying on business by misrepresentation and fraud. The rivalry between the wholesale firms will also be put on a footing more favorable to those which desire to carry on their business on fair and honorable lines, and not seek to secure an advantage over a competitor by giving a customer the opportunity to obtain goods from him under a misconception of the real financial position of the purchaser. Until there is a Dominion Bankruptcy Law the interests of business require the adoption of all the safeguards that wise and prudent Provincial legislation can afford.

## THE WONDERS OF RADIUM.

A wonderful discovery is announced by Sir William Ramsay. At a late meeting of the British Astronomical Association Sir William stated that for twenty-five years a well-known London firm of metallurgists had been engaged in the extraction of uranium from the ore. From certain by-products of uranium radium is obtained and the firm had thrown away those by-products as valueless. They have found from their furnace rooms a fortune whose magnitude cannot be estimated. Radium is worth 12s. a milligramme, or one thirty-thousandth part of an ounce. Such a thing as an ounce of pure radium has never been found. If it were discovered its value would be £750,000. Dust heaps in the vicinity of London are being diligently searched and who shall say that numerous "Bofin's Bower" will not be erected from fortunes made by the extraction of the precious substance from the refuse of metallurgical works. Lord Rayleigh's son has discovered minute traces of radium in the mineral waters of Bath. Professor Dewar found radium in the same waters, and as helium, according to Marie Currie, contains radium, the belief is encouraged that from the gases of Bath's waters the new element may be extracted in such quantities as will cheapen it and thus bring it into general use. The activity of radium is due to the spontaneous explosion or breaking up of atoms, and consequently a novel source of energy much larger than any other previously known is obtained. The medical value of the new discovery is still in doubt, although many scientists affirm that radium will cure cancer. Dr. Morton perfected a solution of radium in water, and by that method introduced radioactivity into the human system, and, as he believes, perfected a cure of three cases of internal cancer.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

## EDUCATION.

Sir,—By your report of the meeting between the School Trustees and the Council last Monday, it would appear that the Trustees are determined, whether the ratepayers will be asked to increase the demands made upon them for public education.

At the present time the taxes on land and improvements in the city of Victoria amount to something over a quarter of a million per annum, of which sum nearly two-thirds is expended annually in liquidation of existing debts. The taxes levied for the education of the children of the city are, in excess of the actual rates received, so disproportionate are they in many cases, to actual value, and so uncertain are they as to what further demands may be made upon the ratepayers by the city trustees, that it is almost impossible to estimate the value of the property. It is surely then that real estate owners made some determined stand against these ever-increasing demands for objects of doubtful value.

The School Act, section 79, says: "Every child from the age of seven to twelve inclusive, shall attend some school or other place to be educated for six months in every year." This is compulsory, and being compulsory, must be provided for free of charge. Section 30, however, in dealing with the powers of the Trustees, says: "The Board of Trustees shall have power, and it shall be the duty of the Board to provide sufficient school accommodation and tuition free of charge, for all children in the district between six and sixteen years of age inclusive." This, therefore, is the "limit of their powers to provide education free of charge."

Section 37 provides that the "Trustees shall, on or before the first day of February in each year, cause to be prepared and laid before the City Council, a detailed estimate of the sums required by the Board for the current year's ordinary expenses of maintaining the schools as they exist at the time of making such estimate, which sums shall be paid over from time to time as required, upon the order of the Trustees, by the City Treasurer."

Sir, if the High School is one of the schools under the control of the Trustees, as defined by the Act, and included in the estimate of the sums required to be provided,

the limit of the age up to which any pupil can be educated at the expense of the city is sixteen, and it is illegal for the Trustees to demand of the ratepayer to pay for the accommodation and tuition of any pupil over the statutory age. I am prepared to prove that there are at the present time over seventy pupils attending the schools over the age of sixteen receiving education free of charge contrary to the Statute.

By way of aggravation of this offence against the law, the Trustees threaten that unless the city build more schools they will not build at estimated cost and thus put the ratepayers to further expense. They have no such power. That would not be an ordinary expense of "maintaining the schools as they exist at the time." It would be an extraordinary expense, and they must come before the ratepayers for a by-law under sections 68 and 69 of the Municipal Clauses Act, when the property owners will have a right to be heard on the matter as to whether they will, or they will not be dragged by the Trustees into further expenditures of doubtful utility until they find by results that the Trustees are making the proper use of the facilities already provided.

THOS. C. SORBY.

## GAME PROTECTION.

Sir, A bill for the better protection of the game of this province will be brought before the House before the close of the present session. The enclosed clipping is instructive, as showing the urgent need for such a measure. It is from Recreation, the well known sportsman's journal, edited by Mr. G. O. Shields, has done more than any other man in America for the protection and preservation of game.

"GROUSE."

Victoria, Jan. 26, 1904.

I am told that T. C. Wilson, whose present headquarters are, I think, at Field, B. C., bought over 50 mountain sheep heads from the Stony Indians last fall and winter. He had 22 of these heads exhibited in a store and offered for sale at Field when I was there in June last. In July, when I visited the upper Saskatchewan region, Wilson had a trading post at Kootenai plains, on that river, where large numbers of the Stony Indians were then camped and were hunting throughout the surrounding country. Wilson was supplying these people with food and ammunition in exchange for game heads and skins, which he in turn sells to tourists and others.

I saw two men whom I met on the upper Saskatchewan had been trapping sheep heads the past winter. I saw three of their bear traps, each of which was baited with the entire carcass of a goat, which had evidently been killed in the winter or early spring. All this was in close season.

I say in the Spokane lake country another trapper, named M. M. Fry, who lives at Bonner's Ferry, Idaho, who, to my certain knowledge, was killing every living thing he could find in that country to bait his traps with. He boasted to us of having smuggled into British Columbia certain valuable goods, and chuckled over having been smart enough to outwit the customs officers. He killed four goats near our camp, some of which he used to bait his bear traps; and this in close season. When we remonstrated with him, he said he recognized no law prohibiting him from killing any wild animal he might find, at any time or place. He was camped within a few yards of us, and one day in May he brought in a female beaver which he had caught in a trap, and from which he took three unborn young. This was after the legal season for trapping beaver; and, in fact, I am under the impression that he has a law prohibiting the taking of beaver at any time in British Columbia. This man Fry has trapped in that country each successive spring for three years past, and says he intends to return there next season.

Mr. W. W. Wright, of Spokane, Wash., whom I know personally, and who was in that country with me in 1902, was there again last spring. He went to New Denver and lodged with the officers there on a complaint against Fry. He reported the case to the police officer, or marshal, of the town, in a just and proper manner to the government agent. These men's names are, respectively: J. T. Black, C. S. Rashdall and A. McInnes.

These officers refused, however, to take action against Fry, offering as one excuse and then another. The policeman, whose duty I understand it was to go after Fry, was evidently too lazy to go, as Fry was evidently 22 miles from the town, up in the mountains. The officer's excuse was that Fry had taken out a miner's license and that it entitled him to kill such animals as he might need for food. Mr. Wright explained that Fry was not eating these animals, and that at least one of the goats he killed had remained where it fell until it rotted, because Fry did not need it for food or for bear bait. Wright explained that Fry was killing sick and decrepit and other harmless animals and birds which are not edible, and because he did not need many of them for bait, they rotted and were not used in any way. The policeman said:

"If this were in the open hunting season, and Fry were out there hunting without a license, I would go after him at once."

Mr. Wright replied:

"Then it is only necessary for a man to come in here and hunt in close season, without any legal permission, in order that he may slaughter any number of animals without molestation."

If you wish further information on this subject, you can get it from W. A. Brewster and N. K. Laxton, at Banff, and they can also tell you of the many other men who are cognizant of the facts.

I should be glad to be advised of your action in this matter.

G. O. SHIELDS,  
Regina, Assa.

## PROVINCIAL PRESS.

Simon Lelzer & Co. have sold out their interest in the wharf and pier to Mr. Howe of Union Bay. It is understood Mr. Brown will remain manager—Cumberland Enterprise.

W. H. Bullock-Webster, chief constable for the Kootenay, has been called to Victoria to relieve Fred S. Hussey, superintendent of provincial police. Mr. Hussey's health is somewhat broken and he will take an extended vacation. Constable Young will be in charge here during Mr. Bullock-Webster's absence.—Nelson News.

A "pled" form is the cause of lateness in issuing and security of news in the Nugget this week. In a large office this would mean a delay of only a few minutes, but where one man is editor, proofreader, printer, pressman and devil, those little slips take longer to adjust. And then it requires some time to properly express one's opinions after an accident of this kind.—Popular Nugget.

On Saturday N. H. Galer, assistant general manager of the Granby Mining and Smelting Company closed a deal for two years' output of the two ore quarries at the Oro Denoro Mines, Laramie, Wyo., Curtis, who went to Grand Forks on Saturday, represented the latter company. The negotiations had been proceeding for a month or so. The Granby company have also bargained for a block of the treasury shares of the Denoro company, the pro-

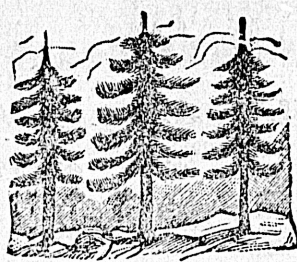
## WHY MOTHERS WORRY

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Cures COUGHS, COLDS, BRONCHITIS, HOARSENESS and all THROAT AND LUNG TROUBLES. Miss Florence E. Mailman, New Germany, N.S., writes:—I had a cold which left me with a very bad cough. I was afraid I was going into consumption. I was advised to try DR. WOOD'S NORWAY PINE SYRUP and after the second I felt as well as ever. My cough has completely disappeared.

PRICE 25 CENTS.

ceeds of which will be sufficient to pay off the balance of the debt to the Bank of Montreal, which the Denoro company assumed when it bought out the assets of the King Mining Company a year ago.—Rossland Miner.

The last issue of the B. C. Gazette contains notice of the incorporation as an extra-provincial company of the B. C. Mine Co., Limited, with a capital of one million dollars in 10,000 shares of \$100 each. The head office of the company is at Lewisville, New Brunswick, and the head office in this province is at Kamloops, and Mr. Fulton is the company's attorney. The objects for which the company has been formed are to acquire and operate mines in New Brunswick and in this province. The mining of the mica deposits of Tete Jaune Cache is the primary object of the company so far as B. C. is concerned. The preparation of the mica for the market and the usual long list of powers sought by every company on incorporation are included in the objects enumerated in this instance.—Kamloops Sentinel.



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Have You Heard the  
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Go and hear it at Harry T. Cole's.  
Mr. Cole will be glad to see all his old friends at his new stand.

## Sale of Val Laces and Insertions

Friday : : : : :

## SPENCER'S

Western Canada's Big Store

Friday and Saturday, the last two days of January Selling

What you can purchase at Spencer's at a considerable saving TO-DAY and SATURDAY, the last two days of our January Sale. Some of the items are new, others have been mentioned before, but well worthy of a second mention.

## Val Laces—Butter, White and Ivory

Butter prices, 50c., 65c., 75c. per dozen. Friday 1c. per yard.

## WHITE PRICES.

35c. per dozen, for ..... 15c.  
40c. per dozen, for ..... 20c.  
50c. per dozen, for ..... 25c.  
75c. per dozen, for ..... 35c.  
\$1.00 per dozen, for ..... 50c.  
\$2.00 per dozen, for ..... \$1.00

## IVORY PRICES.

50c. per dozen, for ..... 25c.  
75c. per dozen, for ..... 35c.  
\$1.00 per dozen, for ..... 50c.  
\$2.00 per dozen, for ..... \$1.00  
\$2.50 per dozen, for ..... \$1.25

## A Few Pieces of Astrachan

54 inches wide, cream and black, at 75c. yard. The former price was four times greater.

## A Few Pieces of Striped Delaines

With border and without, for 25c. yard.

## A New Cotton Vesting

White, with green, black and blue figure, 15c. yard.

## Dress Goods at 25c yd.

You will be surprised what you can pick from the 25c. counter. Many pieces there that sold yesterday at 50c., 75c. and \$1.00 yard.

In the lot are Cashmeres, colors, brown, grey, blue and black, and various tweed mixtures. All at 25c. yard.

## Satin at 35c were 75c Yard

Enough Satins left to last till the end of the month. Colors, red, white, navy, purple, Nile, pink and grey.

32 inches wide, good weight and soft, finest color blue.

50c. per dozen, for ..... 15c.  
40c. per dozen, for ..... 20c.  
50c. per dozen, for ..... 25c.  
75c. per dozen, for ..... 35c.  
\$1.00 per dozen, for ..... 50c.  
\$2.00 per dozen, for ..... \$1.00  
\$2.50 per dozen, for ..... \$1.25

## IVORY PRICES.

50c. per dozen, for ..... 25c.  
75c. per dozen, for ..... 35c.  
\$1.00 per dozen, for ..... 50c.  
\$2.00 per dozen, for ..... \$1.00  
\$2.50 per dozen, for ..... \$1.25

## Linen Toweling

Regular 10c., for ..... 7c. yard

## Pillow Cases

Special, \$2.00 dozen.

## Ladies' and Misses' Flannelette Night Dress's

LADIES' TRIMMED LACE. MISSES' (AGES 10, 12 and 14 YEARS) TRIMMED FRILLS AND BRAIDS.

## Friday 65c

## Women's Wool Underwear

Vests (Scotch Wool), shaped. The 75c. quality, Friday 25c.  
Knit Vests (natural) 50c. quality, Friday 35c.  
Pure English Natural Wool Vests. The \$1.25 quality for 65c.

## Hose Supporters

Fancy Halls, \$1.50 ones for ..... 75c.  
Fancy Halls, \$1.75 ones for ..... 75c.  
Fancy Halls, 85c. ones for ..... 50c.

## Today and Saturday—Two Days More of January Sale Shoe Selling

Boys' and Girls' Shoes \$1.00 pair. Women's Shoes, \$1.75 pair.

## Belts

A few more Satin and Taffeta, also chain combinations, \$1.00 and \$1.25 grades for 50c.; \$1.50, \$2.00 and \$2.50 grades for 75c.

## Sponges at Half

40c. for ..... 20c.  
75c. for ..... 35c.  
\$1.00, for ..... 50c.  
\$1.25, for ..... 65c.

## Embroidery Hoops

The Spring Hoop, 25c. each (three dozen only); Friday, 10c.

## Marking Cotton—Red

Numbers 40, 60, 80, 100, Friday 1c. skein.

Embroidery flax colors, 1c. skein.

Crochet Silk, odd shades, 15c. spool.

Pin Cushions (14 in number) slightly soiled, \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50, Friday 35c.

Muslin Dresser Covers, hemstitched, frill and embroidered centre, 27 inches long, 75c. and 25c.

## MEN'S CLOTHING!

Still satisfying selection among these splendid suits for the man who comes Friday and Saturday.

## The Smartest Sack Suits at Extraordinary Low Prices

Those who have purchased suits during the past month know full well the value given. Some have purchased their second suit this month, so great the saving. Two days more of these extraordinary savings.

\$3.75 for men's All-Wool Tweed Suits, worth up to \$7.50 each. \$6.75 for men's Tweed Worsted and Serge Suits, worth \$10 and \$12.

\$9.75 for all the better grades, worth up to \$18.50.

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**THIAN HOTEL**—European or American plan. Rates \$2 a day; good rooms. First class cafe in connection.

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Tel. 413.

## Provincial Legislature

A Number of Measures are Advanced Several Stages Yesterday.

Interesting Debate Takes Place on the Game Protection Act.

Estimates Disposed of in Committee After Some Lively Discussions.

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock p. m.

Prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Barber.

**BILLS.**

The following bills were introduced, read a first time and ordered to be read a second time today.

By Mr. Oliver—Bill No. 69, intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903.'"

By the Hon. Mr. Wilson—Bill No. 49, intituled "An Act to amend the 'Judgments Act, 1899.'"

By the Hon. Mr. Wilson—Bill No. 55, intituled "An Act to amend the 'Mineral Act.'"

By Mr. Wells—Bill No. 56, intituled "An Act to amend the 'Master and Servant Amendment Act, 1899.'"

By the Hon. Mr. McBride—Bill No. 42, intituled "An Act to secure to certain Pioneer Settlers within the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway land belt their surface and under surface rights."

By Mr. Macgowan—Bill No. 58, intituled "An Act to amend the 'Medical Act, 1898.'"

**IMMIGRATION ACT.**

Mr. Bowser presented a report from the select committee appointed to inquire into the working of the "British Columbia Immigration Act," as follows:

Legislative Committee Room, 28th January, 1904.

Mr. Speaker—Your select committee appointed to inquire into the working of the "British Columbia Immigration Act" beg leave to report as follows:

1. That from the evidence adduced before the committee there is no foundation for any charges against the government.

2. That the Act has been enforced by the officials as well as possible under the circumstances.

We herewith submit the evidence and exhibits put in before the committee.

W. J. Bowser, chairman; Stuart Henderson, Geo. A. Fraser, Wm. Davidson, R. L. Drury.

The report was received.

**STEAM BOILERS INSPECTION.**

Mr. Hawthorthwaite moved the adoption of the report of the bill to amend the Steam Boiler Inspection Act, 1901.

Mr. Oliver moved to strike out all the words of the bill after the word "watch" in the second line of the sub-section.

Carried.

Report as amended, adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

**VANCOUVER ISLAND DEER.**

The House went into adjourned committee on Mr. Hawthorthwaite's bill for the protection of Vancouver Island deer.

Mr. Wright (Ymir) in the chair.

Mr. Tanner moved to change the title of the bill to "An Act for the Protection of Fish and Game." Carried. Section 1 was changed accordingly.

Mr. Bowser moved to include the Mainland owing to certain conditions which arise in the wilds of the North.

Dr. Young (Atlin) said that the section was far too sweeping, as the district of Atlin had to depend largely upon wild game for their supplies of fresh meat.

He had to consider a large consignment of fresh meat, and the people had to depend upon the supplies of game brought in by hunters.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite suggested that the

bill be altered to exempt Atlin district for two years, because if this wholesale slaughter were to continue it would not take long to clear out all the game in the North.

Dr. Young thought that exception for two years would suit Atlin.

Mr. Hall strenuously objected to any interference by the legislature with the business of merchants who had settled here and were treating the skins, and who employed labor here. The bill as now drawn would put those merchants out of business.

Mr. Patterson said a great many of the deer were killed merely for the sport of killing; he knew of cases where many carcases, with the hides, horns and all lay just as they fell.

Mr. Oliver vehemently denounced the so-called sport of slaughtering harmless deer, and denounced it nothing short of murder. He did not want to see any encouragement given to those so-called "sportsmen" who go into the woods and kill everything they meet for the sheer love of shedding the blood of creatures unable to defend themselves, and then coming out to civilization and shamelessly boasting of their bloody and detestable slaughter.

It was murder, not sport. Parties of "sportsmen" came from distant parts to indulge in this bloody amusement, and he did not see why the law should afford them any advantage by the gratification of the sanguinary appetites of those persons.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite warmly combatted the suggestion of Mr. Henderson that the committee rise and report. If the province did not want to see the extinction of its noble big game animals prompt action was necessary, and it might as well be now as a year or two years hence, for then, he members would be found to oppose it just as was being done.

Mr. Murphy said this law if passed, would shut out the prospectors, and hinder prospecting very seriously. The prospectors all winter to get the wherewithal to carry on the summer's work.

Dr. Young—Are there any deer in Cariboo?

Mr. Murphy (vigorously)—Yes, sir; lots of 'em; right on the roads, too. (Laughter.)

Mr. Hall again protested against the bill as unfair to the province.

The bill was reported complete with amendments by the committee. Report to be considered today.

**THE POISON ACT.**

The report of Mr. Oliver's bill to amend the Poison Act was adopted, and the bill read a third time and passed.

The same course was followed with Mr. Cameron's bill to amend the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

**LAND REGISTRY ACT.**

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved on bill No. 38, intituled "An Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act Amendment Act, 1900,' to amend section 2, line four, by adding at the end of line four the words "and by adding to said section 5 the following sub-section:

(2) Upon receipt of a certificate of forfeiture of land to the Crown, issued under section 133 of the said Act, the Registrar shall, in addition to the notice required by section 133 of the said Act, also upon receipt of said certificate any certificate of title or of registered estate outstanding in respect of the same shall be deemed to be cancelled as to said forfeited estate or interest."

Carried.

Mr. Bowser moved the following as sub-section (106a):

"(106a) The various forms and procedure, including the tariff of costs, fees and charges in all cases, petitions, motions, applications and other proceedings under this Act, shall, as nearly as may be, be the same as those in force in the Supreme Court." Carried.

The report of the bill as amended was adopted; third reading next sitting of the House.

**FENCES AND WATERCOURSES.**

Mr. Evans moved the second reading of the Line Fences and Watercourses Act, explaining that the intention was to make the Act somewhat more workable than it was at present.

Read a second time; committed next sitting of the House.

**SPEED OF MOTORS.**

Mr. Tanner moved the second reading of the bill to regulate the speed of motor vehicles on public highways. It was referred to the committee.

Mr. Oliver moved to amend the bill to provide that any person who is convicted of a violation of the provisions of this Act shall, as nearly as may be, be the same as those in force in the Supreme Court." Carried.

The report of the bill as amended was adopted; third reading next sitting of the House.

**COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.**

The House then went into adjourned committee of supply. Mr. Clifford in the chair, taking up the estimates at vote 150, a sum of \$5,000 for the Vancouver Island main trunk road, 176 miles. On the vote of \$2,000 for the lower road.

Mr. Oliver wanted to know where it was. He had been told on one occasion that it was on it, but all he could see was a mud hole. (Laughter.)

The Premier said the grant was far less of what the great highway deserved; its importance was acknowledged by all, and it had materially aided in the development of Delta Riding, and he felt that he would have to apologize to his constituents owing to the smallness of this vote.

Mr. Murphy complained that \$20,000 would not maintain the Cariboo road, and indulged in an attack on the road surveyor, whom he charged with political proclivities of an expensive kind.

The Finance Minister in reply to Mr. Drury, said the government hoped to receive revenue from the Fraser River bridge at New Westminster in the near future.

His whole question was now under the consideration of the government.

In reply to Mr. Henderson who asked about the bridge at Savona, the Premier said plans had been obtained and a practical bridge builder had been consulted. He had spent his life in building up that matter, which was regarded as one of the best in the world; he had contributed the majority of the money, and there were no other funds to be replaced. The destroyed it could never be replaced. The

Premier hoped that Mr. Evans would withdraw his motion.

Mr. Munro feelingly supported the Premier's request that the motion be withdrawn.

Mr. Evans said he was utterly opposed to superannuation funds, as they led civil servants to live loosely and extravagantly, and he felt that his protest was well founded.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite enthusiastically supported and advocated the principle of superannuation funds for civil servants. The question was now agitating the whole civilized world, and in Great Britain it was one of the living questions of the day. It was not only from the altruistic stand and he argued on the ground of common sense; it was no more than the just due to men and women who had given their lives to the service of the country. He would like to see the government formulate a regular system of superannuation for old civil servants.

Mr. Evans withdrew his motion amidst applause.

The committee rose and reported to the House. The report will be considered at the next sitting of the House.

Mr. Cotton presented a report from the select standing committee on private bills. Received.

The House adjourned at 5:55 p. m., until 2 o'clock this afternoon.

**NOTICES OF MOTION.**

By Mr. Bowser, on Monday next: That the report of the select committee appointed to inquire into the working of the "British Columbia Immigration Act," presented on the 28th day of January, last, be adopted.

On Monday next the Hon. Mr. Green to ask leave to introduce a bill intituled "An Act respecting the Official Map of a portion of Comolaken district."

On Monday next Mr. Oliver to ask leave to introduce a bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Municipal Elections Act.'"

On Monday next, the Hon. Mr. Wilson to ask leave to introduce a bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Counties Definition Act.'"

Mr. Oliver to move, upon the consideration of the report of the bill No. 30 intituled "An Act for the Protection of Deer upon Vancouver Island," to amend section 1 by inserting therein the words "and" and the word "to," in the first line, the following words: "to kill except for actual use, or."

**The Mining Association**

Executive of the Local Branch Meets Tonight on Important Business.

List of Contributors to the Fund For Convention Expenses.

The first meeting of the newly elected executive of the Victoria branch of the Provincial Mining Association will be held this evening at 8 o'clock in the office of Mr. Kingston, honorary treasurer.

The committee will take immediate steps toward securing new members and subscriptions to the fund in preparation for the annual convention which will meet here on February 22.

The following is a list of contributors to date:

Hamilton Powder Company ..... \$50.00  
E. G. Prior & Co. .... 25.00  
Brackman-Ker Co., Ltd. .... 25.00  
R. P. Riddick & Co., Ltd. .... 25.00  
Giant Powder Co. .... 25.00  
Hamilton Powder Co. .... 10.00  
Turner-Beech Co. .... 10.00  
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Hibber & Leiser ..... 10.00  
P. R. Stewart & Co. .... 10.00  
P. McQuade & Sons .... 10.00  
B. Wilson & Co., Ltd. .... 10.00  
Victoria Truck & Dray Co. .... 5.00  
P. J. Smith & Co. .... 5.00  
Allen & Co. .... 5.00  
E. B. Marvin & Co. .... 5.00  
A. J. Morley ..... 5.00  
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Total ..... \$305.50

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**CONSERVATIVES ORGANIZE.**

Correspondent at Bella Coola Gives Particulars of an Enthusiastic Meeting.

In the beginning of the new year notices were posted calling a meeting of those interested for January 2nd at the Upper Bella Coola Hotel. In the morning of that day a large crowd had assembled at the place named, and, with eager impatience, awaited the opening of the meeting.

Promptly at 2 o'clock Mr. O. Carlson called the meeting to order and stated the object of which it was called.

T. P. Sangstad was elected chairman, and in accepting of the honor called on the assembly to stand together and organize as strong an association as possible.

A. C. Christenson was elected secretary.

Messrs. Pollard, Allan, Christenson and Lauritzen all spoke in favor of organizing, and a motion was promptly made, and, after being seconded, was carried amidst loud applause.

A list was then passed around the assembly, and it resulted in twenty-four names being enrolled.

A committee of three was then appointed to work out a constitution and bylaws for the association. After a little discussion the meeting adjourned till January 13th.

Through the efforts of A. C. Christenson and T. Sangstad, it became possible for the association to hold its meeting in the house kindly furnished by Mr. J. Clayton, one of the most influential members of the Conservative party in Bella Coola.

The morning of the 13th proved as unfavorable as possible, with rain, sleet and high wind, but despite the inclemency of the weather the sturdy supporters of the association who have taken up the Conservative cause, turned out and docked to the meeting, which commenced at 2 o'clock. T. P. Sangstad in the chair, A. C. Christenson acting secretary.

The report of the constitution committee was then heard, and after being corrected and amended, was approved. During a ten minutes' recess four names were added to the list.

The election of officers then took place, with the following result: A. C. Christenson, president; J. Clayton, vice-president; A. H. Pollard, second vice-president; T. P. Sangstad, secretary; T. A. Allan, treasurer; J. B. Sylvester and P. Lauritzen, directors.

Although the association is only two weeks old, it has its own house, and expects to get a supply of literature and papers so as to enable the members to thoroughly study the political and economic side of the question, and to be able to defend the membership to possibly 35 or 40.

## Your Liver

Will be roused to its natural duties and your biliousness, headache and constipation be cured if you take

## Hood's Pills

Sold by all druggists. 25 cents.

## Evidence Of

## Capt. Troup

Says All C. P. R. Steamers Are Equipped With Life Saving Apparatus.

Capt. Roberts Had Been Capable Seaman for Twenty Years Past.

The Master of the Lost Clallam Will Testify Before Coroner Next Week.

Capt. J. W. Troup, superintendent of the C. P. R. S. S. Company, gave evidence before the coroner's inquest yesterday.

He had been on board the steamer Clallam on the night of the disaster to the Clallam, and passing Trial Island had seen no distress signals, though the weather was clear.

On arrival at E. Blackwood told him that the steamer Clallam had been seen near Trial Island at 3:30 p. m., and seemed in difficulties. She had stopped after hoisting sail. It was about 8 o'clock when he was told. The steamer would start about twenty miles an hour and would have been between San Juan and Smith islands. He was told the Holyoke had left Port Townsend at 7 p. m.

Witness figured that the Holyoke would reach her while the conversation regarding the Clallam was going on. Witness inferred from what Mr. Blackwood said that Captain Roberts had some command over his ship. The Clallam could not have reached the vessel until after the arrival of the Holyoke, about 10 o'clock. Mr. Blackwood seemed anxious. He said that a thorough canvass had been made and no boats could be secured. The Clallam was a steamer which could have gone out first was the Queen City, which could have been made ready in about five hours. Capt. Troup inferred that the Clallam had lost her tail shaft. He never thought that she would not live out the storm, or that there would be danger to life. The storm that day was nothing unusual. The sea was bad for small boats.

To Mr. Laurin—A flare could have been seen from seven to ten miles from the Clallam. A deck light, such as displayed by the Clallam, could be seen for two or three miles. A lantern could be seen for six miles on a clear night. Signals and night rockets were not usually carried by steamers on this coast. They were not usually carried. In his opinion it would be well to have it made compulsory for steamers to carry night signals.

Juror Maroon enquired if the witness knew of any cases of borrowing equipment for inspection.

Mr. Laurin objected to this question being put. It was his intention to have the allegations investigated in this respect. He did not think witness should answer unless he wished.

The coroner thought likewise, and Capt. Troup replied: "As for borrowing equipment, I have never borrowed any equipment of 'life-saving apparatus required by law.'"

He said: "No steamer of ours ever carried life-saving apparatus, and I never saw any equipment of 'life-saving apparatus required by law.'"

Juror Maroon held that this did not answer the question, and Capt. Troup replied: "As for borrowing equipment for inspection, that has never been done in my experience here. We do borrow equipments sometimes from steamers out of commission to take the place of equipment needed for inspection. I have never seen any occasions there could be no preparation."

Juror Maroon asked if witness had ever heard of equipment being borrowed for inspection, and witness said: "No, never."

Spencer, regarding deadlights, witness said it was usual in the C. P. R. steamers for them to have shutters. The steamer Clallam had plugs to it any broken deadlights. A regular crew of men were at or near the waterline would be desirable.

When Mr. Blackwood left him, witness said, he appeared to have reached the Clallam. He would be of little use to the Clallam, and he would have been in the way. If he had thought there was danger to life he would have sent the Clallam. He would have no fear of entering Clallam States waters with her, and would have gone to Port Townsend if necessary. The Clallam would have reached the Clallam before the Sea Lion had gone out. He had not taken out the Clallam because the Holyoke had previously left Port Townsend. He believed that the Clallam had lost her tail shaft, as the Clallam's engines had raced much that day.

To Mr. McPhillips the law did not require an insubstantial light to be attached to boats. Some of the C. P. R. steamers, including the Princess Victoria and Princess Beatrice, had them. The Clallam did not have a light of which it was safe to place a light on the Clallam. He did not think that a boat launched without a plug would swamp as a result. Such a leak could be stopped with a cap or anything. A ship should take the matter in hand and see that they were properly equipped and with crews aboard before they were launched with women and children aboard. In answer to a question as to whether it would have placed the passengers on the Clallam Holyoke when she arrived if he had been placed in the position that Capt. Roberts then was, witness did not wish to reply. He said that he knew Captain Roberts for twenty years and have always regarded him as a capable seaman. He will probably have reasons for everything he did, and when he comes on the stand he will give those reasons.

Herbert Taylor saw the steamer Clallam off Beacon Hill at 3:05, she being then off Trial Island about a mile distant and evidently in distress. She had a small sail up and her bow pointed toward the American side. She had swung around into the trough of the sea. He had then telephoned to Mr. Blackwood's office. He saw her until 4:30 p. m., and at no time showed out flags in distress signals.

The coroner said he had received a letter from Capt. Roberts stating that he would come to give evidence after the Seattle enquiry closed next week. Several other witnesses from the Sound would also come on Monday and the inquest was then adjourned until Tuesday next.

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